



Laurens Middle School

1035 West Main St.

Laurens, SC 29360

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	464 Students	
Principal	Rhett Harris	864-984-2400
Superintendent	Dr. Billy R. Strickland	864-984-3568
Board Chair	Rev. Charlie Short	864-681-3664

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Average	Average
2011	Average	Good
2010	Average	Good
2009	Average	Good
2008	Below Average	Below Average

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>

<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located

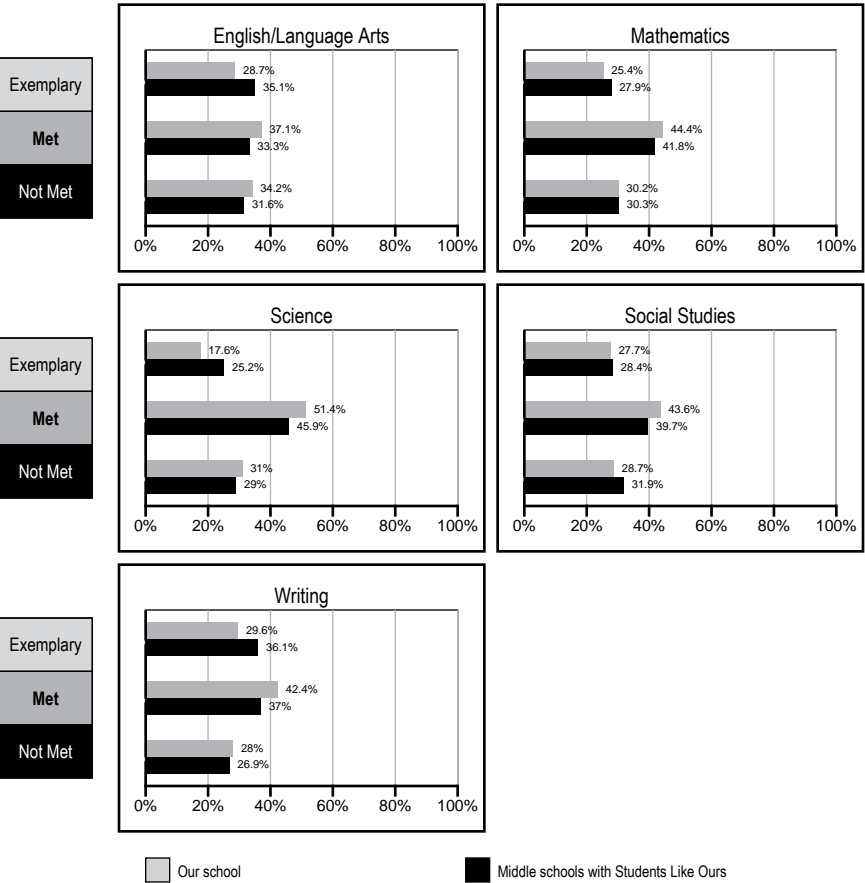
98.4%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
6	11	42	3	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable

N/AV–Not Available

N/C–Not Collected

N/R–Not Reported

I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	96.7%
English 1	100.0%	96.5%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0%	96.6%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=464)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	8.6%	Down from 37.6%	22.7%	22.9%
Retention rate	1.3%	Up from 1.0%	0.7%	0.8%
Attendance rate	95.6%	Down from 96.1%	95.9%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.6%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=25)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	48.0%	Up from 44.0%	60.0%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	88.0%	Down from 90.8%	87.2%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	97.3%	Down from 97.8%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,519	Up 1.5%	\$46,483	\$46,422
Professional development days/teacher	11.6 days	Down from 15.1 days	10.3 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	9.0	Up from 8.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	34.8 to 1	Up from 25.8 to 1	22.1 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.0%	Down from 93.3%	89.9%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	98.7%	98.8%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,655	Down 4.6%	\$7,080	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	68.8%	Up from 65.7%	63.4%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	67.2%	Up from 62.7%	61.6%	60.9%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

By continuing to be a “learning community where students are empowered for success,” Laurens Middle School embraced its mission and had an excellent year in 2011/2012. With the support of parents, students, and a tremendous staff, Laurens Middle earned a Palmetto Silver Award for the second consecutive year. Our efforts were rewarded as teachers and staff focused intently on planning, instruction and assessment and accepted the challenge of making lessons relevant and interesting for students.

The students and staff of Laurens Middle did an outstanding job in reaching out to our community this school year. Students learned about the importance of giving to others by supporting a child through the Make a Wish Foundation. Clipping coupons became the focus of the Christmas season as we raised money to purchase food for several needy families. Our Teens for Jeans campaign was a great success as hundreds of pairs of jeans were collected and donated. The fight against cancer was again supported through Relay for Life as we staged our own mini-walk for cancer victims and raised money to be used in the struggle to find a cure. The generosity of those associated with Laurens Middle was shown right up until the end of the year as we again supported the local Pennies for Patients campaign.

Our community gave to us as well. Laurens Middle students benefited from tutoring provided by Michelin Proving Grounds employees. We also formed a new partnership with McDonalds of Laurens in an effort to provide incentives for student attendance in school.

There were lots of success stories at Laurens Middle this year. From classrooms to concert halls and ball fields to academic bowls, our students produced excellence and displayed the well-roundedness that we seek as children are educated. To say that our students made us proud would be an understatement given the compilation of numerous great performances and efforts in many different and distinct venues.

We also need to tip our collective hats to our teaching staff. Given budget cuts that all have had to endure in public education and an increase in class size, our teachers rolled up their sleeves and went to work in 2011/2012. Not stopping to make excuses, teachers instead found innovative ways that they could serve and challenge our students excellently. Our teachers proved that a demanding situation can become a rewarding one when our focus remains on students instead of circumstances.

Rhett Harris, Ed.D. Principal
 Randy Hillmann, Chairman, SIC

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	18	110	47
Percent satisfied with learning environment	83.3%	71.8%	97.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.4%	74.5%	86.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	61.1%	84.5%	89.1%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	81.9
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Laurens Middle School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	95.6%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
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Grades 6-8

All Students	639.4	640.9	619.8	628.0	100.0	100.0
Male	635.2	639.9	619.1	632.5	100.0	100.0
Female	643.6	642.0	620.4	623.5	100.0	100.0
White	654.0	652.3	633.3	636.8	100.0	100.0
African American	619.3	623.6	600.5	613.1	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	599.2	590.0	571.8	590.0	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	625.9	641.5	614.2	628.6	100.0	100.0
Subsidized meals	627.3	632.7	608.6	618.7	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	624.0	624.0	624.0	624.0	95.0	95.0

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
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English/Language Arts

2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	165	100	37.4	34.2	28.4	62.6
	7	119	100	22.9	38.5	38.5	77.1
	8	136	100	26.5	39.4	34.1	73.5
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	155	100	37.8	28.4	33.8	62.2
	7	159	100	39.2	34.6	26.1	60.8
	8	126	100	23	50	27	77

Mathematics

2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	165	100	38.7	41.3	20	61.3
	7	119	100	22	48.6	29.4	78
	8	136	100	22	53	25	78
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	155	100	24.3	45.3	30.4	75.7
	7	159	99.4	36.2	40.1	23.7	63.8
	8	126	100	30.3	48.4	21.3	69.7

Science

2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	84	100	48.8	41.3	10	51.3
	7	119	100	20.2	55	24.8	79.8
	8	68	100	28.8	40.9	30.3	71.2
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	76	98.7	30.6	63.9	5.6	69.4
	7	158	100	32.2	48	19.7	67.8
	8	62	100	26.7	45	28.3	73.3

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
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Social Studies

2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	82	100	36.8	51.3	11.8	63.2
	7	119	100	28.4	35.8	35.8	71.6
	8	68	100	18.2	33.3	48.5	81.8
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	80	97.5	33.8	48.6	17.6	66.2
	7	159	100	31.4	43.1	25.5	68.6
	8	64	100	14.5	40.3	45.2	85.5

Writing

2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	135	99.3	27.5	46.6	26	72.5
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	128	100	28	42.4	29.6	72

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